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Letter dated 13 May 2005 from the Permanent Representative of Nigeria to the Untied Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

In my capacity as the representative of the current Chairman of the African Union, I have the honour to transmit herewith a communiqué adopted by the Peace and Security Council of the African Union at its twenty-ninth meeting, held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 12 May 2005, on the situation in Somalia (see annex).

I should be grateful if the text of this letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Aminu Bashir **Wali**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Nigeria to the United Nations
Representative of the current Chairman of the African Union

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Annex to the letter dated 13 May 2005 from the Permanent Representative of Nigeria to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

[Original: English and French]

Communiqué of the twenty-ninth meeting of the Peace and Security Council

The Peace and Security Council (PSC) of the African Union (AU), at its 29th meeting, on 12 May 2005, adopted the following decision on the situation in Somalia:

Council,

1. **Welcomes** the Report of the Chairperson of the Commission on the Outcomes of the Fact-Finding/Reconnaissance Mission to Somalia and the IGAD Military Planning Meetings [PSC/PR/2(XXIX)];

2. **Notes with serious concern** the difficulties facing the reconciliation process, particularly as regards the stabilisation of the security situation and the delayed relocation of the Transitional Federal Institutions (TFIs) to Somalia, and **stresses** that, in the absence of speedy progress on the critical issues facing the reconciliation process, the hard-won gains of the IGAD-led Reconciliation Conference could be undermined, with far-reaching consequences for Somalia and the region as a whole;

3. **Takes note** of the efforts deployed by the Transitional Federal Government (TFG), the other TFIs and the Somali parties, to resolve the problems facing the reconciliation process, including the recently announced Mogadishu Security and Stabilisation Plan (MSSP). Council **further notes** the bill adopted, on 11 May 2005, by the Transitional Federal Parliament (TFP) on the issue of the relocation of the TFG and the deployment of the IGAD Peace Support Mission to Somalia (IGASOM), and **urges** the TFIs and the Somali parties to continue to engage in dialogue with a view to reaching the broadest possible consensus on these issues, as well as on the modalities for disarmament and the stabilisation of the security situation in Somalia. Council **further urges** the TFG to intensify dialogue with all the Somali stakeholders with a view to deepening the reconciliation process;

4. **Authorises** the deployment of Phase I of IGASOM, as agreed upon by the 24th Ordinary Session of the IGAD Council of Ministers, held in Nairobi, on 17 –18 March 2005, to undertake the following:

- facilitate the relocation of the TFIs;

- provide protection to the TFIs, as appropriate, to enable them carry out their functions;

- initiate, in collaboration with the TFIs and all concerned Somali parties, steps towards the re-establishment and training of all-inclusive Somali security forces;

- provide, within capabilities and as appropriate, support to the disarmament and stabilisation efforts;

- monitor, in areas of deployment of its forces, the security situation;

- protect its personnel, installations and equipment;

- facilitate, as may be required and within capabilities, humanitarian operations; and

- create conditions for the take over of IGASOM by the AU at the end of Phase I.

5. **Requests** IGAD to continue to work with all the Somali parties to promote the widest possible support for the deployment of IGASOM, bearing in mind the sentiments and concerns expressed to the AU-led Fact-Finding/Reconnaissance Mission, as reflected in the Report of the Chairperson;

6. **Calls** on the AU Member States and the international community at large to provide political, financial and logistical support to IGASOM, bearing in mind that the ongoing process is based on consensus as understood by the Somali society;

7. **Requests** the Commission, jointly with IGAD, to take all necessary steps to mobilize financial and logistical support from AU partners, including the European Union (EU) and its Member States, the League of Arab States (LAS) and the other bilateral partners;

8. **Requests** the United Nations Security Council to authorize an exemption on the arms embargo imposed against Somalia by resolution 733 (1992) of 23 January 1992, to allow the personnel of IGASOM and that of the envisaged AU peace support mission in Somalia to bring in the military equipment necessary for the execution of their mandates;

9. **Requests** the Commission to speed up the operationalization of the Advance Mission for Somalia authorized by decision PSC/PR/Comm(XXII) of 5 January 2005, with a view to providing the necessary backup to IGASOM and the overall reconciliation process in Somalia, as well as undertaking adequate preparations for the takeover of IGASOM by the AU at the end of Phase I. Council **further requests** the Commission to accelerate the finalization of the recommendations on the size, structure, tasks and funding requirements for the envisaged AU peace support mission to Somalia, to be submitted to it, in accordance with decision PSC/PR/Comm(XXII);

10. **Decides** to remain seized of the matter.